



# ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS NEWSLETTER

WEST SANTA ANA BRANCH

ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 2010

Welcome to the first in a series of e-newsletters to inform stakeholders about efforts to create additional travel options between Los Angeles and Orange Counties.

## OVERVIEW

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is leading a collaborative study of utilizing the historic Pacific Electric Right-of-Way to connect downtown Los Angeles, the Santa Ana Regional Transportation Center, and communities in between. This untapped resource presents a valuable opportunity for a new transit system offering a fast, convenient, environmentally-friendly, cost-saving alternative to driving.

The collaboration involves 21 cities and several county and regional agencies. To help guide the planning process, a Steering Committee (of elected officials) and a Technical Advisory Committee (of city and agency staff) have been established to act as sounding boards for SCAG.

For more information, including a map of the study area and a list of participating agencies, visit [www.pacificelectriccorridor.com](http://www.pacificelectriccorridor.com).

## WHAT THIS MEANS TO YOU

Imagine how you, your family, and friends can have the opportunity to access jobs, education, recreation, cultural and entertainment experiences – with less traffic!

The objective of the study, called an Alternatives Analysis, is to explore the potential for new transportation options on the right-of-way. The study is expected to be completed by Fall 2011 and will address the following issues:

- ♦ Which mode of transit matches the local community's travel needs, desires and values?
- ♦ How will a new transit system stimulate local economic development?
- ♦ How will engineering and environmental challenges be met?
- ♦ Where should stations be located?



## LESSONS FROM THE COMMUNITY – WHAT WE'VE LEARNED SO FAR

Between June 15, 2010 and June 23, 2010, over 150 people attended a series of public meetings held in different locations throughout the study area. Community members learned about the study's goals and objectives, and about the different modes of transportation being considered. Attendees were asked for their input on current and future transportation challenges and possible solutions.

Following is a summary of key themes heard:

- ♦ Traffic congestion and lack of parking is frustrating – and only expected to worsen with future growth.
- ♦ Current transit systems don't meet transportation needs with respect to convenience, speed, schedule and connections to major destinations.

- ♦ There is enthusiasm for providing fast, convenient transit service in the corridor, but community members are concerned about noise, vibration, aesthetics, traffic, safety and property value impacts.
- ♦ Participants saw the potential for transit as a catalyst for residential, commercial and economic development to enhance the vitality of communities.
- ♦ Connecting communities with walking/biking trails and a network of open spaces/public plazas is strongly supported.

For more information and a summary report of these meetings, visit:

[www.pacificelectriccorridor.com/community-meetings](http://www.pacificelectriccorridor.com/community-meetings)





WEST SANTA ANA BRANCH

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

# ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS **NEWSLETTER** (CONTINUED)

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## UPCOMING COMMUNITY MEETINGS

The evaluation results for the Initial Set of Alternatives listed here will be presented at community meetings in November and December 2010. Participants will discuss the benefits, impacts and tradeoffs of the alternatives. Proposed routing options and station locations will also be presented.

Your input will help guide us to the final set of alternatives that will be evaluated. You won't want to miss these meetings. Bring your family and friends!

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2010**  
**6:30 - 8:30 PM**

Progress Park Plaza, West Auditorium  
15500 Downey Avenue, Paramount, CA 90723

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2010**  
**6:30 - 8:30 PM**

Cerritos Park East Community Center  
13234 East 166th Street, Cerritos, CA 90703

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2010**  
**6:30 - 8:30 PM**

Huntington Park Community Center  
6925 Salt Lake Street, Huntington Park, CA 90255

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2010**  
**6:30 - 8:30 PM**

The Courtyard Center  
12732 Main Street, Garden Grove, CA 92840

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2010**  
**6:30 - 8:30 PM**

Complex Building, 4th Floor, Room 414  
Cypress College  
9200 Valley View Street, Cypress, CA 90630

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2010**  
**1:00 - 3:00 PM**

Stanton Community Center  
7800 Katella Avenue, Stanton, CA 90680

## WHY YOUR OPINION MATTERS

As a stakeholder who lives, works, visits, worships, shops, owns a business or property, and/or attends school or college in the study area, your perspectives and values can influence the outcome of this study. Become involved, attend community meetings, and tell us what you think.

## WHERE WE ARE TODAY – AN INITIAL SET OF ALTERNATIVES

Based upon the first round of public meetings and input from the advisory committees guiding the study, the following Initial Set of transportation alternatives has been identified and is currently being evaluated using criteria that reflect community values and concerns.



NO BUILD



TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT



METRO ORANGE LINE



PORTLAND STREETCAR



METRO GOLD LINE



SAN DIEGO SPRINTER



HIGH SPEED RAIL

### No Build

Complete only the transportation improvements which already have committed local, regional, state or federal funding.

### Transportation Systems Management

Maximize the use of the existing transportation network through minor improvements, such as increasing bus service, providing new bicycle facilities and improving traffic flow with signalization improvements.

### Bus Rapid Transit

Provide high-speed bus service operating in dedicated lanes along the Pacific Electric right-of-way between Los Angeles and Orange counties and connecting north to Downtown Los Angeles either on city streets with signal priority or within freeway carpool lanes.

### Streetcar

Build a community-oriented, light rail-like system similar to that being considered by the City of Santa Ana and in operation in the City of Portland.

### Light Rail Transit

Build a rail system similar to the Metro Gold and Blue lines in Los Angeles County serving local and regional trips.

### Multiple Unit

Build a self-powered rail system similar to the Sprinter service in northern San Diego County serving local and regional trips.

### High Speed Rail

Build a grade-separated, high speed rail system such as faster speed Amtrak that operates in the eastern U.S. or Maglev system similar to those in Europe and Asia, serving regional trips.

For more information, please contact:

**Philip Law, Project Manager at 213-236-1841 or [law@scag.ca.gov](mailto:law@scag.ca.gov) or visit [www.pacificelectriccorridor.com](http://www.pacificelectriccorridor.com)**

### MAIN OFFICE

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